there will be still more Ezhavas who will be able to stand the test of efficiency. I should be very very sorry to see the Ezhava community coming into service on the ground of backwardness or on the sole test of minimum qualification.

In regard to nomination and election to the Legislative Council, you plead for a separate electorate. I can only draw your attention to what I have already said, that until the life of the present Council is over, I could not think of making a further experiment on the subject of the electorate and electoral systems.

174. Needs of the Parayas.

MR. KANDAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) prayed for the following concessions being granted to the Parayas in the matter of education :—

(1) The Paraya pupils studying in the English and Vernacular schools should be given noonday meals.

(2) There were only very few youths of the Paraya community who had passed the School Leaving Examination. But there were many who were literate. They should be provided with suitable appointments in the several departments under the Government.

(3) M. I. Tevi of the 6th class, Vernacular Middle School, Sastankotta and K. K. Gopalan of the 5th class, Vernacular Middle School, Kavur, in the Tevalakara *pakuthi*, should each be given a scholarship for a fixed period.

(4) The Paraya candidates appearing for the Vernacular School Leaving Examination should be exempted from payment of examination fees.

(5) Paraya candidates should be declared to have passed the examinations, even when they got a few marks below the prescribed minimum for each subject.

The member next said that the Parayas were a labouring class but that they were prevented from cutting *eetas* and rattan from the reserved forests for pursuing some cottage industry or other. There was also no work available for them since the outbreak of the late European war; and consequently, the Parayas had become poorer. The Government should therefore adopt some measures to alleviate their distress.

There was no law of succession and inheritance among the Parayas, and consequently, they were put to great inconvenience and difficulty. Some were following the *Makkattayi* law, others the *Marumakkattayi* law, while still some others were following the *Misradayi* law. In the absence of a uniform law of succession, there was no inducement for them to earn property. It was therefore necessary to apply some uniform law in the matter. The member thought it would be enough if the provisions of the Nayar Regulation were extended to the Parayas, the majority of whom were agreeable to such a course.

Lastly, the member prayed that Mr. Yohannan, the holder of School Leaving Certificate No. 2470 of 1100, should be given some appointment in the public service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kandan Kumaran, as you know, the Parayas are already included among the depressed classes who are allowed full remission of fees both in English and Vernacular Schools.

They are also exempted from paying examination fees; and the question of a few special scholarships for them is now under correspondence with the Director of Public Instruction.

I am afraid it will not be possible to extend the Nayar Regulation to your community for purposes of succession and transmission of property. If you will form a small committee among yourselves and draw up a memorandum of your needs in that direction, I shall be very happy to have your proposals examined.

The other points you have taken up will be duly considered.

175. Concessions to the Parayas.

MR. KANDAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) made the following requests in the matter of registry of lands :—

(1) The Parayas had submitted applications for the concessional registry of lands in the several taluks at the rate of 3 acres for each family. But most of the applications had not yet been disposed of. They should be decided without further delay.

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